

APPENDIX A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 030481-0183

Applicant: Dan AKERFELDT
Title: A TOOL, A SEALING DEVICE, A SYSTEM AND A
METHOD FOR CLOSING A WOUND
Appln. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: December 18, 2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior substantive examination of this application, it is respectfully requested that the following changes be implemented.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 4 and 8 with the new versions shown on the following sheets. Please also add new claim 11.

*In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii), marked-up version(s) of the amended claim(s) are provided on separate sheet(s) at the end of this response under the heading of Marked-up Versions of Amended Claims.

4. (Once amended) The tool (101; 102) according to claim 1, characterized in that said tool comprises
an outer feeding means (33; 133) for pushing the proximal plug member (3), said outer feeding means being provided with an axial through bore;
an inner feeding means (34; 134) for pushing the distal plug member (2), said inner

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feeding means being provided with an axial through bore for moveably receiving said retracting means (6), and said inner feeding means being disposed for movement in said bore of said outer feeding means;
said gear mechanism (32; 132) being coupled to said inner feeding means and said outer feeding means; and
a pushing means (36; 150) for pushing the gear mechanism (32; 132), the outer feeding means (33; 133) and the proximal plug member (3) with respect to the casing (30; 130) of the tool, in a direction towards the wound.

8. (Once amended) A system for closing a wound in a punctured vessel, characterized in that a sealing device according to claim 7 is inserted and mated by the use of a tool.

11. (Newly added) A system as for closing a wound in a punctured vessel according to claim 8, wherein the tool comprises a gear mechanism coupled to the retracting means for converting a movement of the tool in a proximal direction away from the wound, when the distal plug member is anchored in a vessel, to a pushing movement for moving the proximal plug member in a direction toward the distal plug member in response to a stretching force in the retracting means.

REMARKS

The amendments which are proposed in this response are deemed to improve the clarity and form of the claims. Support for the newly presented claim is found in at least originally presented claim 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 18, 2001

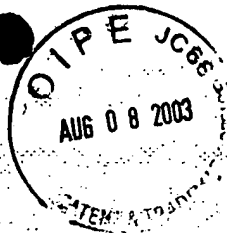
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MARKED-UP VERSIONS OF AMENDED CLAIMS

4. (Once amended) The tool (101; 102) according to [anyone of claims 1 through 3] claim 1, characterized in that said tool comprises
an outer feeding means (33; 133) for pushing the proximal plug member (3), said outer feeding means being provided with an axial through bore;
an inner feeding means (34; 134) for pushing the distal plug member (2), said inner feeding means being provided with an axial through bore for moveably receiving said retracting means (6), and said inner feeding means being disposed for movement in said bore of said outer feeding means;
said gear mechanism (32; 132) being coupled to said inner feeding means and said outer feeding means; and
a pushing means (36; 150) for pushing the gear mechanism (32; 132), the outer feeding means (33; 133) and the proximal plug member (3) with respect to the casing (30; 130) of the tool, in a direction towards the wound.

8. (Once amended) A system for closing a wound in a punctured vessel, characterized in that a sealing device according to claim 7 is inserted and mated by the use of a tool [according to anyone of claims 1 through 6].



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A WOUND

Inventors: Dan AKERFELDT et al

Dkt. No. 030481-0183

Appl. No.: Unassigned

GL (12/18/01)

- Transmittal of PCT National Phase Patent Application (2 pgs.);
- Patent Application Specification (21 pgs.);
- Formal Drawings (7 sheets);
- Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.);
- Form PTO-1449 (1 pg.) and 3 References;
- Preliminary Amendment (3 pgs.);
- Check Number 17518 for \$585.00.

Commissioner for Patents:

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office receipt stamp hereto and mailing this card.

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Due: December 18, 2001

Inspected by:

NFF

Respectfully,
Foley & Lardner

10/018137

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